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NINTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
OF
OMAHA, NEBRASKA,
FOR
THE YEAR 1898.



~~Lan 975.1~~
Lan 980.790

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FOR THE YEAR 1898.

OMAHA
A. L. STONECYPHER
1899

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OMAHA IN 1861.



OFFICERS.

JOHN H. EVANS, President.

GEORGE W LININGER, Vice-President.

C. E. BATES, Secretary.

WM. R. ADAMS, Superintendent.

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS.

1899.

EDWARD J. CORNISH.....	Term expires May, 1899
JONAS L. BRANDEIS.....	“ “ “ 1900
GEORGE W. LININGER.....	“ “ “ 1901
CAPTAIN H. E. PALMER.....	“ “ “ 1902
JOHN H. EVANS.....	“ “ “ 1903

STANDING COMMITTEES.

1899.

IMPROVEMENT.

J. H. EVANS, Chairman *ex-officio*.

E. J. CORNISH.

G. W. LININGER.

FINANCE.

H. E. PALMER, Chairman.

E. J. CORNISH.

J. L. BRANDEIS.

JUDICIARY.

E. J. CORNISH, Chairman.

J. L. BRANDEIS.

H. E. PALMER.

DESIGNATION OF GROUNDS.

G. W. LININGER, Chairman.

H. E. PALMER.

E. J. CORNISH.

EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPLIES.

J. H. EVANS, Chairman *ex-officio*.

G. W. LININGER.

J. L. BRANDEIS.

The Members of the Board for previous years were as follows:

1889.

George L. Miller, President, appointed for five years.
 Geo. W. Lininger, Vice-President, appointed for four years.
 Augustus Pratt, appointed for three years.
 George B. Lake, appointed for two years.
 Alfred Millard, appointed for one year.

1890.

George L. Miller, President.
 George W. Lininger, Vice-President.
 Augustus Pratt.
 George B. Lake.

Alfred Millard.
 (Reappointed for five years.)

1891.

George L. Miller, President.
 George W. Lininger, Vice-President.
 Augustus Pratt.
 George B. Lake.
 (Reappointed for five years.)
 Alfred Millard.

1892.

George L. Miller, President.
 George W. Lininger, Vice-President.
 Thomas Kilpatrick.
 George B. Lake.
 Alfred Millard.

1893.

George L. Miller, President.
 George B. Lake, Vice-President.
 A. P. Tukey.
 Thomas Kilpatrick.
 Alfred Millard.

1894.

A. P. Tukey, President.
 Alfred Millard, Vice-President.
 George B. Lake.
 Thomas Kilpatrick.
 M. H. Redfield.

1895.

A. P. Tukey, President.
 George B. Lake, Vice-President.
 C. E. Bates.
 Thomas Kilpatrick.
 M. H. Redfield.

1896.

A. P. Tukey, President.
 Thomas Kilpatrick, Vice-President.
 C. E. Bates.
 M. H. Redfield—Resigned.
 (E. J. Cornish to finish term.)
 J. C. Wharton.

1897.

A. P. Tukey, President.
 C. E. Bates, Vice-President.
 E. J. Cornish.
 J. C. Wharton.
 H. E. Palmer.

1898.

C. E. Bates, President.
 E. J. Cornish, Vice-President.
 H. E. Palmer.
 J. C. Wharton.
 J. H. Evans.

*To the Honorable, the Mayor and City Council of the
City of Omaha :*

On the 16th day of January, 1899, the present Board of Park Commissioners, having been duly appointed by the Mayor, by and with the approval of the City Council, severally took the oath of office and entered upon the duties thereof. The former board, consisting of C. E. Bates, President ; E. J. Cornish, Vice-President ; J. C. Wharton, Captain H. E. Palmer and J. H. Evans, acting under the advice of the Judges of the District Court of the Fourth Judicial District of Nebraska, from whom they received their appointment, surrendered the office without controversy.

The following report contains matters of statistical and historical interest not heretofore accessible except by tedious examination of old records. It properly marks the end of the old and beginning of the new regime.

Whatever may be said of the policy of the old system that thrust duties foreign to their office upon judges of the district court, it must be admitted that the past park commissioners, without exception, have been men of high character, devoted to the upbuilding of the city. Politics has never entered the board. Most of the present park employees have been in the service of the city for ten years or more, and were chosen by reason of their fitness. Employment in the parks has never been given either as a means of dispensing charity or rewarding political service.

The danger of political machinations is the evil of the new system. In every city where politics has entered the board, park work has become demoralized. It will be our aim to maintain the past standard of the board, and to that end we ask the co-operation of the other branches of the city government, and of all public spirited citizens.

EARLY HISTORY OF PARKS.

The map of A. D. Jones, published September 1, 1854, shows the following parks: Jefferson Square; Washington Park, the land upon which a court house was afterward located and upon which now stands the block known as "Paxton Block," Sixteenth and Farnam streets; Capitol Square, the ground where the High School now stands; a tract of land overlooking the river, bounded by Davenport street on the north, Jackson street on the south, Eighth street on the east and Ninth street on the west.

Prior to 1861 the land lying between Jackson and Jones streets in said last mentioned tract was donated to Mr. Thomas Davis upon which to construct a steam mill. Later the city donated the land on the northeast corner of Ninth and Farnam streets for use in the construction of a large hotel, long known as the "Herndon House," and now the Union Pacific headquarters. The entire tract was cut up into blocks described as "C-D-E-F-G-H and I," and sold for business purposes. As we look back, we must regret the departure from the first design. Omaha at the time was a small village, containing about 1,500 inhabitants, and struggling for supremacy with Niobrara, Decatur, Florence, Bellevue, Plattsmouth, Nebraska City and other villages, all aspiring to be the gate-way of the great west, and the eastern terminus of the railways then being projected. It was surrounded by native woods and marshes, and the need for public parks seemed very remote indeed. Today it is a matter of regret that Omaha is the only city in the world that has on its border a large river or body of water without a park, or even a driveway, along its shore. To the earlier settlers the shifting sand banks of the Missouri River rendered navigation difficult and expensive. Its miry bottom lands were impassable in certain seasons. They saw no beauty in it whatsoever. The prejudice thus created still remains. With all its faults, the Missouri River has a certain



Hangoon Park
CHINA 1914

VIEW IN HANGOON PARK.

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one and one-half mills. The board was empowered to designate land to be used, purchased or appropriated for park purposes, "and thereupon it became the duty of the mayor and council to take such action as may be necessary for the appropriation of the lands and grounds so designated, and for the purpose of making payments for such lands and grounds, to assess such real estate as may be specially benefited by the appropriation thereof for such purposes, and to issue such bonds as may be required for such purposes to the extent and amount required in excess of such assessment."

In 1891 said act was further amended extending the power of the board, and providing for the issue of bonds to an amount not to exceed \$500,000.00, "the same not to be issued until the question of issuing the same shall have been submitted to the electors of the city at a general election therein."

In 1897 the legislature again amended the charter in such a manner that the maximum amount levied for park fund in any one year could not exceed the sum of \$30,000.00, the former minimum amount, against which warrants could be drawn to the extent of 90 per cent. thereof; providing that not more than \$50,000.00 of bonds could be issued in one year, and then only after having been submitted to a vote of the people, and requiring park commissioners to serve without compensation.

In 1898, in case of *State of Nebraska vs. F. E. Moores, Mayor, et al.*, it was determined by the supreme court of the state that the law providing for the appointment of a board of fire and police commissioners in the city of Omaha by the governor of the state was unconstitutional. The rule in that case applied with still greater force to the board of park commissioners appointed by the judges of the district court of the state. In accordance with said precedent, an ordinance of the city was duly enacted providing for



VIEW IN ELMWOOD PARK.

the appointment of a board of park commissioners by the mayor, by and with the approval of the council. Pursuant to said ordinance, the present board was appointed.

It is presumed that the charter will be amended by the legislature now in session so as to conform to the decision of the supreme court in the premises.

PARK BONDS.

Pursuant to the power contained in the act of 1891, the Board of Park Commissioners commenced negotiations for acquiring by purchase lands to constitute a system of parks and boulevards. The minutes of a board meeting held September 29, 1891, contains the following :

“On motion of Mr. Pratt, the Secretary is instructed to communicate to the City Council recommending that a proposition be submitted to the people at the coming election for \$400,000.00 in bonds, to be issued for park purposes as follows: Parker Tract, 80 acres, \$80,000; Distin Tract, 110 acres, \$90,000; Elmwood Park, 156 acres, \$136,500; Bemis Park, 10 lots, \$30,000; Southeast Park, \$65,000; total, \$400,000.”

Pursuant thereto, by ordinance duly enacted, the mayor and city council submitted to the people a proposition to vote bonds in the sum of \$400,000 for the purpose stated. On the 3rd day of November, 1891, said proposition carried by a vote of 10,229 for the bonds, and 2,063 against the bonds. Complaint being made as to the price to be paid for said lands, the city council advertised for bids, but were unable to obtain any better propositions than those obtained by the board set forth above. They thereupon purchased the lands at the price stated.

We take pleasure in reminding the public of these facts, because the city authorities are frequently criticised for having paid exorbitant prices for said park lands. In view of subsequent events, such criticism ap-

pears warranted. During the past year the city has acquired, by condemnation for park purposes, at \$250 per acre, land north of Riverview Park, for which the city in 1891 offered \$1,200 an acre, which was refused. The land condemned during the last year for Central Boulevard was appraised at less than the assessed value in 1891, which was estimated to be but one-sixth of its market value at that time. In 1891 suburban lots in Omaha had an inflated "boom" value. The people, who, by a vote of five to one, authorized the bonds, knowing at the time the lands to be acquired and the price to be paid, should withhold their censure now.

JEFFERSON SQUARE.

Jefferson Square, consisting of one block in the heart of the city, is the sole remaining park of those originally platted in 1854. Repeated attempts have been made to divert it, like the others, to all kinds of public use. In 1894, when an attempt was made to construct a market house on this site, the Board of Park Commissioners instructed its president to commence suit to enjoin such diversion. After an appeal to the Supreme Court, it resulted in preserving this valuable tract of land for all time, for park purposes.

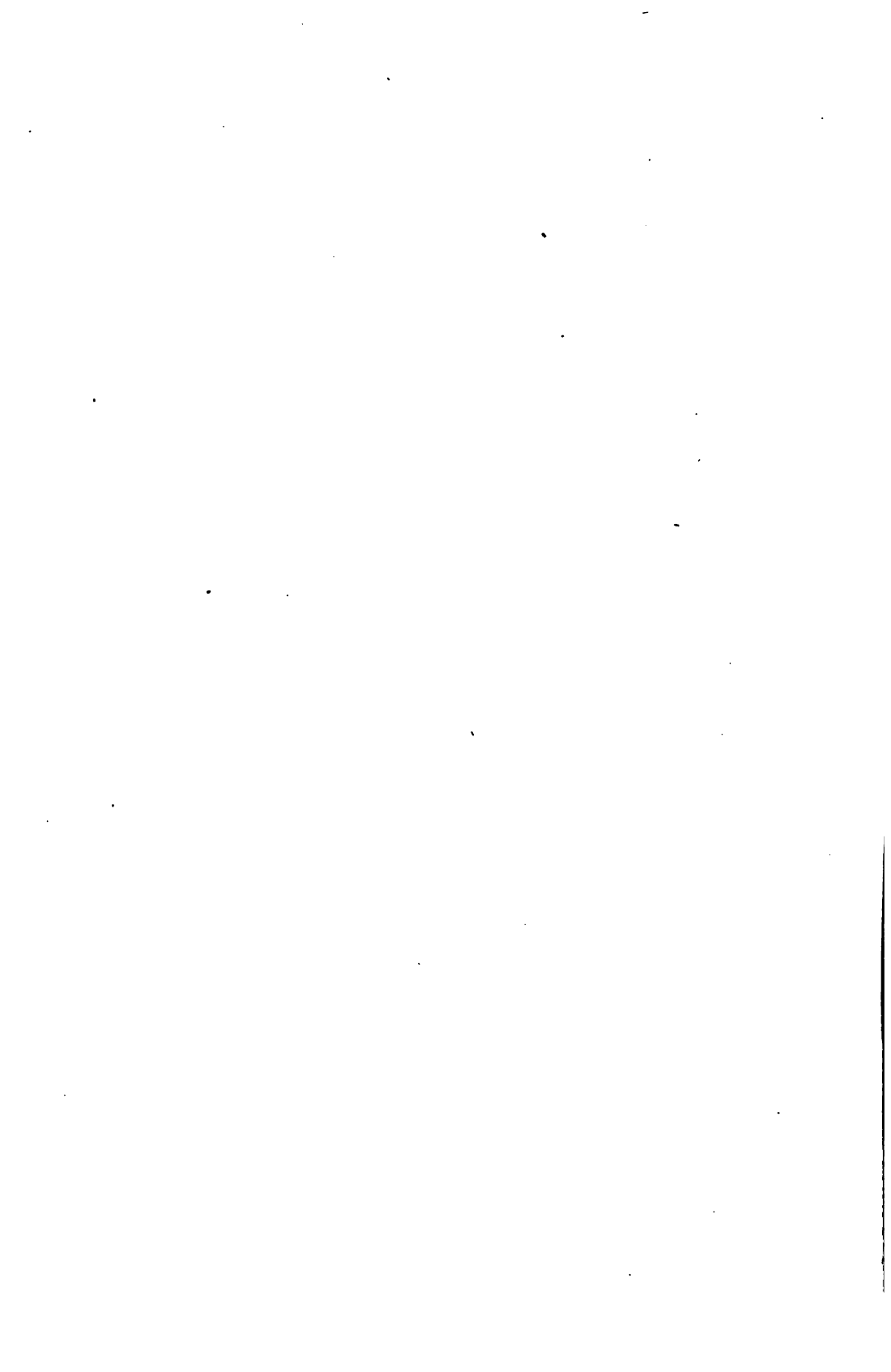
In the summer season more people seek shelter and comfort under the trees and on the lawns of this park than in any other park.

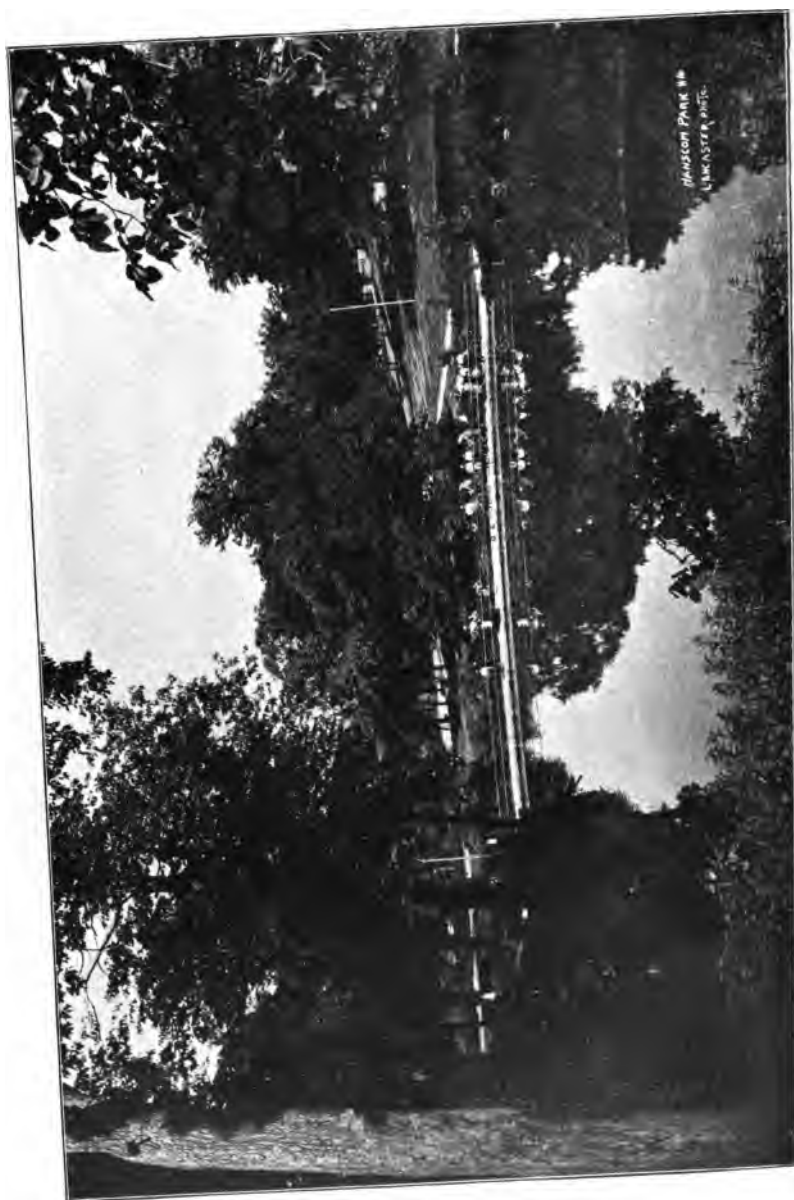
HANSCOM PARK.

Hanscom Park was donated to the city, subject to certain conditions, by Andrew J. Hanscom and James G. Megeath on November 7, 1892. A copy of the deed appears in the appendix. This tract contains 57 69-100 acres. At the time of the donation of this land it was extremely rough, covered by hazel brush and natural forest trees, situated in an inaccessible and uninviting portion of the city, then but sparsely settled. It is to-



VIEW IN JEFFERSON SQUARE.





HANSCOM PARK
LANCASTER, MASS.

VIEW IN HANSCOM PARK.

day the best developed and most beautiful of our parks, and in the center of the most fashionable and highest-priced residence property of the city—a condition directly attributable to the location of the park.

The deed required that the city should expend in improvements during the year 1873, \$3,000; \$4,000 each year during the years 1874, 1875 and 1876; and \$5,000 each year for the years 1877 and 1878; and shall forever thereafter keep said premises in good order and repair as a public park. A controversy arose as to whether the city had complied with the agreements therein contained on its part. Mr. Andrew Rosewater, who was city engineer during said period, and others who were in the employ of the city at that time and investigated the matter when the facts were fresh in their memory, inform us that the city did (as a matter of fact) expend the amount of money required to be expended. It is to be regretted that the city did not keep a separate account of all the items of expenditure during those years. There appears upon the records of the city an account named "Hanscom Park," from which the expenditures elsewhere given under Hanscom Park are taken, which would indicate that the city did not quite comply with the conditions of the deed. Said account, however, does not include any work done on said park by regular city employees, or for water, light, grading done by the street commissioner, tools, machinery, fencing and possibly other items which it is now impossible to ascertain definitely, and are therefore not included in said statement of expenditures. The contract of the city with the Water Works Company, and the ordinance authorizing the maintenance and construction of water works in the city of Omaha, provided that the company constructing such works should furnish water to the city free of charge "for Hanscom Park, in a quantity sufficient for the necessary fountains therein, not exceeding four in number, one hydrant for sprinkling purposes and one for drinking purposes in said park." The water

in said park has been furnished under the terms of this ordinance free of charge to the city.

In the year 1892 an artesian well was sunk in said park to a depth of 1,100 feet, but it was found impossible to obtain a flow of water. The experiments in Hanscom, Elmwood, Riverview and Kountze Parks; together with similar experiments by others, have proven that water will rise in an artesian well only to an elevation of 96 feet above low water mark of the Missouri River, the basic point in measuring elevations of the city.

In 1890-93 a pavilion, a band stand, and greenhouse were constructed in the park, at a cost of \$32,000. In the year 1893 the pavilion burned down. The following year the present pavilion was constructed, at a cost of \$14,028.77. Two lakes, a cascade, extensive flower beds, two and one-half miles of macadamized roadway, fountains, and a magnificent growth of forest trees make this the only finished park in the city. H. M. S. Cleveland, of Minneapolis, a landscape gardener, was employed in 1889, and the park has been developed and improved under the plans made by him. The subsequent development of this park, and in fact all other parks, has been under the supervision of W. R. Adams, superintendent.

This park, with Riverview are the only parks available for use now, or perhaps for many years to come. Our people can well be proud of both. They each have natural beauty and distinctive features that must be admired by all visitors.

ELMWOOD PARK.

This park is situated 3.43 miles west of the post-office. In the year 1890 Lyman Richardson, John T. Bell, Henry B. Wiley, Leopold Doll and William F. Snyder donated to the city for park purposes a tract consisting, including streets, of 52.13 acres. Afterward, in the year 1893, the city purchased an additional 156



acres, at a cost of \$135,110.10. A winding stream, supplied by cool springs, and lined with forest trees, made the tract first donated a natural park. The land subsequently acquired was a corn field and prairie. The entire tract has been densely planted with trees. Three bridges across the ravine were constructed in 1891. In 1895 an artesian well to the depth of 1,800 feet was sunk, but the water arose only to a point about eight feet from the surface. The hilly and unimproved roads leading to the park, and the fact that it lies to the west of the city, so that one must face the sun in driving to it in the afternoon and evening, has rendered it less popular than was expected. It is growing in favor as a picnic ground, and in time, as the trees grow and the roadways to it are improved, will become an ideal large park.

BEMIS PARK.

In 1889 the Bemis Land Company donated to the city six and one-half acres of land adjoining what was at one time a stream between Twenty-fourth and Twenty-seventh streets. In 1893 an additional ten lots were purchased from the Bemis Land Company at the price of \$30,000. This park contains 9.40 acres and is 2.07 miles northwest of the postoffice by the route of travel. This park is covered with native forest trees. A small lake has been created in the center and roadways constructed. We invite the public to view Bemis Park as an illustration of how the rough lands and unsightly ravines that disfigure our city on every side can, by a small expenditure of money, be transformed into beautiful pleasure grounds, furnishing easy and inexpensive roadways, and enhancing the value of all adjacent property and rendering beautiful and unique features of Omaha landscape at present dirty, unsightly and abandoned. The proposed Central Boulevard is a development of this idea.

FONTENELLE PARK.

This park is located 4.62 miles northwest of the postoffice, and contains 107.53 acres. It was purchased in the year 1893 from William L. Distin for the sum of \$90,000. A number of trees were planted in this park when first obtained, but few of which survived the drouths of 1893-94-95. For the past three years it has been rented for pasture purposes for \$200 a year. The roads to this park are hilly and unimproved. On account of lack of funds and adverse criticism of expenditures upon distant and undeveloped parks, no further improvements have been made.

MILLER PARK.

This park lies 4.32 miles north of the post office, contains 78 acres, and was acquired by purchase from Wm. F. Parker et al. in the year 1893, at the price of \$75,000, or \$937.50 per acre. The land when acquired was but a corn field. In 1893 and 1894 the ground was leveled, driveways graded, a lake constructed and a number of trees planted. During 1897-98, 35,000 trees were planted, most of which appear to be doing well. The distinctive feature of this park is the level and attractive driveways leading to and through it. The topography of the city is such that this park and its approaches offer the most suitable place in the city for bicycling and speedways. It must always be the most popular park for such purposes. Improvements should be made with a view to developing this natural advantage.

HIMEBAUGH PARK.

Himebaugh Park contains 1.10 acres, and was dedicated to the public for park purposes at the time Saunders & Himebaugh's Addition was platted. It is 3.45 miles to the center of this park from the old post office. No improvements have been made in this park.

RIVERVIEW PARK.

A portion of the \$400,000 bond issue was set aside for the purpose of acquiring a park in the southeastern portion of the city. Satisfactory arrangements could not be made with the owners for the purchase of a park in that locality and the same was condemned, resulting, after more or less litigation, in the city acquiring nominally 65 acres at a cost of \$75,190. An accurate survey shows the tract to have contained but 64.54 acres.

In 1894 a boulevard 150 feet wide from Bancroft street to this park was condemned, the cost thereof being assessed on the abutting property. This was the first park land acquired, the cost thereof to be paid out of a fund created by assessment of property specially benefited.

In 1898, 14.28 acres, including streets vacated, immediately north of this park and extending the same one block west to Tenth street, were acquired by condemnation proceedings for \$3,260. The fund to pay for the same was created by assessment of property specially benefited. Near the close of last year the board, at apparently the unanimous request of interested property owners, declared the necessity of acquiring 32 additional acres of land immediately north of Riverview Park. It is believed the same will be acquired during the present year. These additions will make Riverview next to the largest park, containing 111.57 acres. Elmwood, the largest, contains 208 acres. It will be but 882 feet further from the Paxton Hotel than Hanscom Park by the usual route of travel. It lies in the undeveloped territory between Omaha and South Omaha. This park is covered with a native forest, including all indigenous varieties of trees and shrubs. An artesian well* to a depth of 1,064 feet, sunk in 1894, supplies a flow of 80 gallons to the minute through a four-inch pipe, and maintains a lake in the lower por-

*See analysis in appendix.

tion of the park. In one of the draws a series of three pools for the animals, connected by cascades, supplied by city water, has been constructed at very small expense. At the Valley street entrance a very beautiful lake was formed by throwing a dam across the ravine. This lake is also supplied by city water.

A few animals indigenous to the western prairie and Rocky Mountains have been given to the board, to which additions from time to time have been made. The cages provided are very crude, but the animals themselves are pleasing to children, and, hidden in one of the densely wooded draws, have a natural and picturesque appearance.

The plans for this park were made by W. R. Adams, superintendent.

This park has been handicapped by lack of street railway facilities and traversable roads leading to it. During the last year the Tenth street car line was extended to Bancroft street, 2,200 feet from the entrance. The Thirteenth street car line runs three blocks from the west entrance. The large number of visitors to this park in the summer season, averaging over 2,000 on pleasant Sundays, will doubtless induce the Street Car Company to furnish suitable street car accommodations to the people of Omaha and South Omaha. The property owners are taking measures to make traversable streets with easy grades approaching the park from the north. It is hoped the new boulevard will be made traversable between Hanscom and Riverview Parks during the present season. When this is done, Riverview Park must continually grow in favor. The enthusiasm with which the people living in that vicinity exert themselves to make the park beautiful and popular, and their willingness to be taxed for additions, while all other park lands in recent years have been acquired by general taxation, is commendable. No other park presents such a variety of scenery. Its topography is such that no point affords a view of the entire park, thereby



VIEW IN RIVERVIEW PARK, 1894.



SAME VIEW IN RIVERVIEW PARK, 1898.

giving it the appearance of being much larger than it is. Notwithstanding its roughness, a large number of comparatively level roads have been constructed, following the contour of the bluffs, at times descending into the valleys, giving a series of changing and pleasing views of the park, and the river and the lakes, distant corn fields and timbered bluffs upon the Iowa side. The 3,000 acres lying below it appear to be part of one large park, bounded on every side by the winding, precipitous and wooded bluffs of the Missouri River. It presents all the characteristic features of a Missouri River landscape, and is a distinctive Omaha park—in natural beauty unlike any other in the world. It is well to remind the public that, should the land between it and the river, now beautiful in a state of nature, become disfigured by shanties, barnyards, smoky factories, railroad yards, etc., the distinctive beauty of the park will be marred forever. If it is deemed too expensive at present to extend the park to the river, a boulevard to the river, thence along the banks to Missouri Avenue, South Omaha, thence up the ravine to Syndicate Park, would make one of the most attractive driveways in the city, that could be constructed at a slight expense upon land almost worthless. Such a boulevard would furnish a level road suited for speeding and bicycling purposes, through natural woods, along the river front, in a locality where there is not another level tract of land suitable for the purpose within six miles.

KOUNTZE PARK.

The city desired to assist the Trans-Mississippi & International Exposition, held in Omaha from June to November, 1898. It was found that under the state law no assistance could be given, except such as could be rendered by the park board in ostensibly improving the system of parks. The levy for 1897 and 1898 was increased, with the understanding that \$30,000 should be expended out of the park fund in assisting said ex-

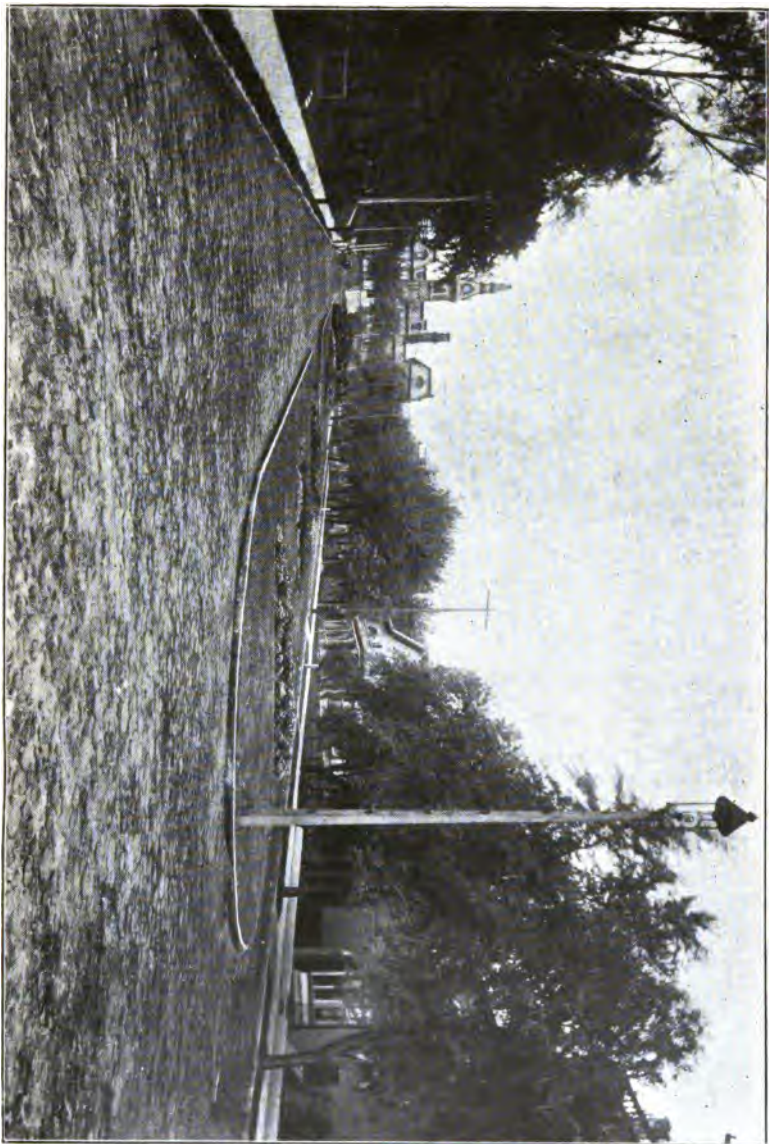
position. The city owned no ground on the site finally chosen for the exposition, and therefore the money could not be legally expended. To obviate the difficulty, the exposition company purchased from Mr. Herman Kountze and donated to the city five and one-half acres of land. Mr. Kountze also donated five and one-half acres. The board expended in macadamizing the roadways leading to this park, and in improvement in the exposition grounds, about \$35,000. There remains to show for this expenditure two iron bridges, an artesian well 1,200 feet deep, which supplies, through a three-inch pipe, a flow of 20 gallons a minute, a quantity of trees and shrubs, a macadamized boulevard between it and the city, and the park land.

STREET PARKINGS.

Capitol Avenue is 120 feet wide. In the year 1888 the central 32 feet thereof between Eighteenth and Nineteenth and Nineteenth and Twentieth streets was placed under the charge of the board, and by it planted with trees and shrubs. The remainder of the street was paved with wooden blocks. This parking makes a very beautiful feature in the center of the city, but the pavement around it has fallen into decay and is almost impassable. Last year the board resolved to spend no further money in caring for or improving this parking until the abutting property owners should put the street in passable condition. We are informed that the action of the board is bringing about the desired result, and that said street will be repaved this year.

The central 44 feet of Woolworth Avenue from Hanscom Park to Thirty-sixth street was placed in charge of the board in 1897. Trees and shrubs have been planted on this ground.

Avondale Park, a strip of ground 80 feet wide and 300 feet long, on Webster street, between Twenty-seventh and Twenty-eighth streets, was placed in charge



CAPITOL AVENUE, 1890.

of the board in 1893. Nothing has been done on this tract.

FLORENCE BOULEVARD.

This boulevard commences at Chicago and Nineteenth streets, thence north on Nineteenth street to Ohio street, thence west to Twentieth street, thence north to Ames avenue, thence northwest, following the ridge of the bluffs until it enters Miller Park, a total distance of 3.75 miles. That portion of the boulevard composed of Nineteenth and Twentieth streets to Ames avenue was placed under the charge of the park board in 1897, and is the usual width of the streets. From Ames avenue to Miller Park, a distance of 1.25 miles, it is 150 feet in width. The latter portion of the boulevard was donated for the purpose by the following property owners: Jared J. Smith, Gdn., Minnie L. Littlefield, George Warren Smith, Sarah O. Patrick, Frank G. Patrick, Edwin L. Patrick, Seth F. Winch, Martin Anderson, James Y. Craig, Margaret A. McCoy, Charles L. McCoy, James Christie, Juliet Z. Forbes, George W. Forbes, Alfred Donahue, Maria Hellman, Robert Preiss, James M. Lowe, Philo Parsons, Jester R. Conkling, Chas. W. Conkling, Benjamin Keyes, Edwin Paulsen, Samuel R. Blair, George B. McCosh, William H. McKay, Emerson L. Stone and William H. Stone. A small portion of the land that was not donated was condemned. From Ames avenue north it is lined with forest trees, and overlooks the Missouri River bottom. It is comparatively level, and intersected by no cross-roads, thereby making it especially desirable as a speedway. At present this boulevard is very popular. It is the design of the board to confine the expenditure of park funds in the northern part of the city largely to the improvement of this driveway, which meets a present demand and will become more popular as it is developed.

CENTRAL BOULEVARD.

During the last year condemnation proceedings were instituted to acquire two boulevards, one Central Boulevard North, extending from Twenty-sixth and Curt streets to Hanscom Park, a distance of 2.10 miles, and the other Central Boulevard East, extending from Hanscom Park to Riverview Park, a distance of 2.44 miles. The report of the appraisers on the first tract was so high that the city council refused to confirm the same. Proceedings to condemn this portion of the boulevard will be instituted again, we hope with better results. Mr. W. J. Connell has donated a strip of ground 100 feet wide, along Thirty-fourth street from Woolworth avenue to Poppleton avenue. Mr. J. M. Woolworth has donated 26 lots north of Poppleton avenue through Oakhurst addition. Mrs. Charlotte Turner has donated 32 lots between Farnam and Dodge streets and Thirtieth street and Thirty-first avenue. With these donations the remainder of the land necessary ought to be acquired at small expense and improved with the least possible delay. The appraisers appointed to assess damages for land taken for the boulevard from Hanscom Park to Riverview Park awarded the total amount of substantially \$50,000. The award was confirmed by the city council, and the latter body sit as a board of equalization in March to assess the property benefited, for the purpose of raising a fund to pay the amount so awarded. It is believed the property owners will waive tender of damages and permit the board to at once enter upon and improve this boulevard. It will be 150 feet wide, excepting between Seventeenth and Twentieth streets, where it widens into a small park of twelve acres, enclosing a deep ravine, covered with a dense growth of forest trees. When completed, this portion will have a grade of 2 per cent., excepting three blocks, where the grade will be 4 per cent. A viaduct crosses the Union Pacific and Burlington & Missouri River railroad tracks



VIEW IN BEMIS PARK.

on Vinton street. Leaving Hanscom Park, the road follows the ridge of the hills, giving an extensive view of South Omaha and all the larger buildings of Omaha; thence, after crossing the viaduct, it descends into a wooded ravine, which it follows until it ascends the hill in Riverview Park, where the broad expanse of the Missouri River, elsewhere described, breaks into view. From Hanscom Park to the viaduct is 1.06 miles, and from the viaduct to Riverview Park is 1.38 miles. This will no doubt become a most picturesque and popular driveway.

The board is gratified with the favorable reception of this project by the people. We have yet to hear the first criticism. A central driveway $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles long, transforming unsightly and valueless land in the heart of the city, as illustrated in Bemis Park, is much to be desired. There is danger that the northern portion of the boulevard may fail by reason of real estate agents discounting in advance the advantages to be derived and enhancing the value of the land necessary to be acquired.

FINANCIAL VALUE OF PARKS.

Park statisticians assert that land in the vicinity of parks increase in assessed value from 300 to 500 per cent. more than the average increase in assessed value of all the property in the city. Statistics from other cities seem to make this a conservative statement. In Omaha the relative increase has been much greater. We have but one developed park. The other parks were purchased at the beginning of a great decline in land values. A general financial depression has prevailed here and throughout the country since. Real estate speculation entirely ceased. They are located miles from the developed portion of the city and have never been improved. Park land, without a road or a tree is like a valuable treasure buried in the ground. Therefore, Hanscom Park is the only park that fur-

nishes any reliable data from which to ascertain the commercial value of park improvements.

Hanscom Park was donated in 1872. In 1874 Hanscom Place, consisting of 20 blocks or 498 lots contiguous to the park on the east, north and south, was platted. The following table is taken from the tax list in the city treasurer's office. The ratio of assessed value to actual value has changed in different years, but such change is uniform throughout the city and does not affect the value of the table:

	Assessed value in 1874.	Assessed value in 1898.	Ratio of increase.
Hanscom Place (498 lots) . . .	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 580,855.00	1 to 82.9
Entire City	6,750,544.50	33,049,503.00	1 to 4.8

A great many additions not part of the city in 1874 have been platted and included in the assessed value of the city in 1898, thereby making the ratio of increase in the entire city greater. It is fair to conclude that the location and improvement of Hanscom Park set in operation those influences that have caused lands in that vicinity to increase in value 20 times more than the average increase throughout the city.

These lands have always been the first to respond to any upward movement in Omaha land values. The revenue derived from these lands by the state, county and city has increased in the same proportion. Therefore the city has received in increased taxes by reason of this park very much more than it has expended. The park has been more than self-supporting, notwithstanding the cost of paving, which has been paid out of the general fund. As to this last point, the city assessor informs us that the lands on Thirty-second street fronting the park, exclusive of improvements, are assessed at a valuation of \$22.15 per front foot, while the lands on the same street two blocks north, between Poppleton avenue and Pacific street, are assessed at \$15.40 per front foot, making a difference in actual valuation of nearly \$25.00 per front foot.

Referring to property in the vicinity of Florence



VIEW IN HANSCOM PARK.

Boulevard, the city assessor says: "I feel safe in saying that, while this boulevard at present lies in a section of the city only partially developed, the assessment on lots fronting on the boulevard range from 10 per cent. to 15 per cent. higher than those on similar property lying west of the boulevard."

It is manifest from the foregoing that the special privileges possessed by lands lying in the vicinity of our parks and boulevards by increasing the value thereof are repaid to the city in increased revenue.

IMPROVEMENTS.

The educational, moral, refining and advertising advantages of parks cannot be overestimated. The average American, however, is disposed to discount all advantages that cannot be measured in dollars and cents. Adopting this standard it has been the policy of the board to construct no improvements except such as would clearly result in immediately increasing land values, thereby increasing the assessed values and the revenue of the city therefrom.

The board felt it its duty to plant trees in Miller and Elmwood Parks and along the boulevards, which it has done at a cost of about fifteen cents a tree, including both first cost and labor of planting. The trees are one and one-half to two and one-half inches in diameter. It also put in water pipes for the use of the animals in Riverview Park, and increased the water supply in Hanscom Park. It also, under pressure of property owners in the vicinity, constructed a fountain in Hanscom Park. With these exceptions, no improvements were made last year, and none are contemplated now, except the construction of roadways.

Omaha was once distinguished for its driveways and roadsters. The extensive grading, paving and building of street railway tracks destroyed all the former driveways, so that Florence Boulevard is today the only suitable driveway in the city. The fine roadsters

and equippages formerly seen upon Sherman avenue departed with the destruction of that street for driving purposes. To remedy the evil the board designed Central Boulevard, which, with Florence Boulevard, will give a level and beautiful driveway, studded with small parks, within a half mile of 95 per cent of the residences of the city.

It is much cheaper to improve boulevards than streets, for the reason that the former follow the natural contour of the land, while the latter, under the state law, must "correspond in width, name and direction and be continuous of the * * * streets * * * contiguous." Between 1880 and 1897, inclusive, as shown by the report of the city engineer January 1, 1898, the city expended in grading public streets and alleys \$1,447,-957.64, or an average of \$82,109.31 per year. The expense of property owners in adjusting their premises to the changed grade was much more. Our boulevards will save much of this grading and make a better roadway. Our parks will become more accessible and popular. Populous districts now five miles distant from each other by the usual route of travel will be connected by a fashionable driveway less than two miles in length. Lands will be made valuable from which the city has received no appreciable income in taxes for years.

During the last two years lands valued at \$75,-000.00, centrally located, have been donated to the city for park purposes. At the apparently unanimous request of the property owners whose lands are specially assessed to pay for the same, the city has condemned and is condemning 60 acres of centrally located park lands and 4.54 miles of boulevard 150 feet wide. These gifts and condemnation proceedings were not influenced by charitable, but by business motives, the parties to be taxed and making the donations believing that their remaining property would be benefited more than the gift and assessment. The board feels that these people are entitled to consideration, and that the expense of maintenance and of other improvements



VIEW IN RIVERVIEW PARK.

should be reduced to the lowest point possible until the central connecting driveways are made passable, in fine weather, to the width of at least 30 feet. Even this will cost a large amount of money, but when the driveways are once open and the general public are enabled to see the prospective beauties of the finished system now known only to those living in the vicinity, the advantages will be anticipated and the parties whose property is being specially assessed for the purpose will receive an immediate return for their money in the increased market value of their lands, and the city will receive an immediate return in the increased revenue by reason of the increased value of the land, together with the incalculable advantage of favorably impressing visitors.

MAINTENANCE.

Pursuant to the aforestated policy, the board has reduced the cost of maintenance to the lowest possible point.

In Hanscom Park the board has been compelled by public sentiment to maintain the flower beds and high state of cultivation. In Riverview Park we have maintained, at the expense of \$426.02, the animals which were donated by the South Side Improvement Club and others. The expenses in the parks that are not within the city limits and the property surrounding which does not pay taxes to the city, have been reduced to the minimum. It is necessary to keep one man in these parks to prevent vandalism, the stealing of small trees and the cutting down of larger ones for fire wood. The young trees must be watered occasionally in dry periods, and occasional repairing of dirt roads is necessary. In Jefferson Square, Bemis Park, Hanscom Park and Florence Boulevard the board has maintained electric lights.

In the report of the Board of Park Commissioners of Toledo, 1897, it is said: "By a careful examina-

tion of reports from various cities, I find that the cost of maintaining parks where fairly well improved varies in amount from \$79 to \$148 per acre per year, or a general average of about \$100 per acre."

The cost of maintenance in Hanscom Park, (58 acres) has averaged from 1890 to 1897, inclusive, \$7,-678.40 per annum, or \$132.38 per acre. In 1898 said expense of maintenance was reduced to \$5,162.89, or \$89.01 per acre.

During the same years the expense of maintenance of Jefferson Square was \$783.29 per annum, or \$391.64 per acre, which was reduced in 1898 to \$452.36, or \$226.18 per acre.

From 1894 to 1897, inclusive, the expense of maintenance in Bemis Park (10 acres) was \$540.64 per annum, or \$54.06 per acre. In 1898 this was reduced to \$390.79, or \$39.07 per acre.

In 1898 the expense of maintenance in Riverview Park was \$26.07 per acre; Miller Park, 6.03 per acre; Elmwood Park, \$2.87 per acre. In all other parks nothing.

Small parks cost very much more per acre for maintenance than large ones. What would be very objectionable in small parks escapes notice and oftentimes adds to the wildness and natural beauty of a large park.

The foregoing figures indicate how consistently the board has adhered to its policy to reduce to the minimum expenditures that must be repeated each year that it will have more funds with which to construct permanent roadways. It may be that the board has gone too far in this direction. "One year's seeding, ten years' weeding" is a maxim among gardeners.

EMPLOYEES.

The permanent employees of the board have been in its employ for ten years or more, and are skilled experts in the work. The park-keepers receive \$50 a month; the florist in Hanscom Park \$55 a month;

the men employed in the summer season are paid 20 cents per hour; team and man, \$3 per day; park watchman, \$50 a month—from \$15 to \$25 less than the city policemen—and are required to do additional services in gathering up papers and refuse matter scattered in the park, and such other work as may be ordered.

PARK FUNDS.

We give elsewhere a statement of the amounts annually available since the organization of the board for park maintenance and improvement.

The average amount available annually from 1889 to 1898, inclusive, has been \$40,270.05. In 1897 the charter was amended so that \$30,000, which theretofore had been the minimum levy required by law, except when waived by the board, which was done in 1895 and 1896, was made the maximum amount of levy. To create this requires a tax of 20 cents per inhabitant.

For the purpose of comparison, we give the following statement of the funds available for park maintenance and improvements, exclusive of land purchases, in the cities named, for the year 1897, as shown by the last reports in our possession (1898):

City	Population	Fund Available
Buffalo	255,000	\$816,090.64
Cleveland	350,000	707,596.29
Cincinnati	296,000	49,360.76
San Francisco	298,000	249,660.55
Detroit	205,000	165,556.79
Milwaukee	204,000	212,995.94
Rochester	175,000	54,143.67
Indianapolis	105,000	35,000.00
Cambridge	70,000	165,556.12
Wilmington	61,000	197,097.94
Peoria, Ill.	60,000	87,000.00
Des Moines, Ia	50,000	35,365.80

In the cities showing smaller amounts the expenditures were confined to maintenance.

In Minneapolis during the years 1892 to 1896, inclusive, there were expended in improvements and maintenance, exclusive of lands purchased, \$634,767.00

or \$158,691.75 per annum. During the same years St. Paul expended for the same purpose the sum of \$245,853.00, or an average of \$61,463.25 per annum. In 1897, St. Paul appropriated \$85,621.96 and Minneapolis \$82,228.31.

Kansas City appropriated for park improvement and maintenance during the fiscal year ending April 17, 1898, \$67,908.25, and for the first $8\frac{1}{3}$ months of the current fiscal year, \$80,204.19.

It is manifest that Omaha, with its parks and boulevards undeveloped and extremely rough, is at a disadvantage as compared with cities named, even if the maximum amount permitted by law is annually appropriated; but systematic work and uniform appropriations will accomplish marvels.

CONCLUSION.

Property owners become enthusiastic and assist the board when the work of improvement goes forward from year to year. Any person who will compare the superior neatness and ornamentation of the lawns in the vicinity of Hanscom Park with any other portion of the city will discern the effect of park improvements and ornamentation upon the habits of the people and general appearance of the city. The public has shown more interest in parks the last year than in any year since the organization of the board. Improvement clubs in all parts of the city are taking up the matter of parks and offering their friendly aid. The public enthusiasm that waned with the decline in real estate values and expenditures upon distant parks has increased very much under the policy of central improvements. We believe our work is generally approved. Those who criticise it will be found to be those who would



VIEW IN HANSCOM PARK.

have no parks at all, who never visit parks, and who really have the most need for the revivifying influence of a day in the parks.

J. H. EVANS, President.

EDWARD J. CORNISH.

J. L. BRANDEIS.

H. E. PALMER.

GEO. W. LININGER.



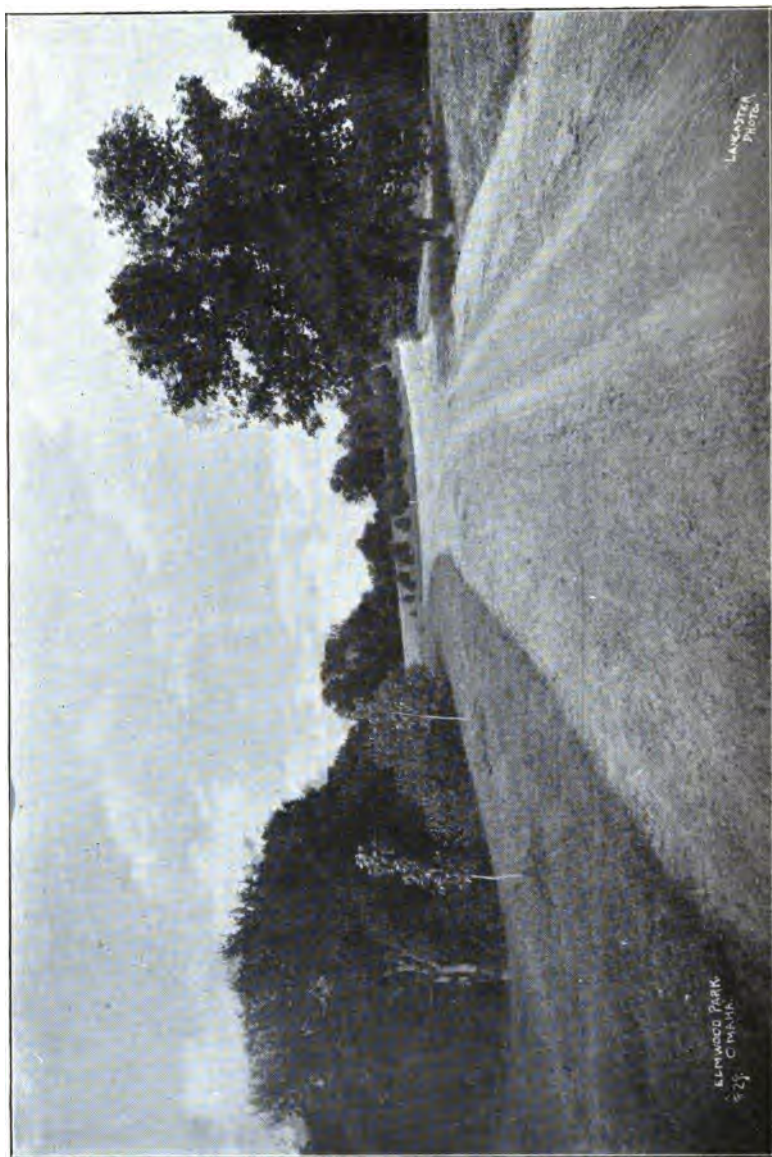
SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Honorable Board of Park Commissioners:

GENTLEMEN—In submitting this, my annual report of the parks and boulevards of the city, it will be unnecessary for me to enter into the details connected with the maintenance of the system. It requires eternal vigilance to not only take precautions against accidents which may result in serious loss, but also to continually look after countless small matters which concern the convenience and comfort of the general public, as well as to see that the public property is not wilfully, or it may be thoughtlessly, destroyed by the negligence either of employees or visitors. It is very trying, for instance, to see a tree or shrub mutilated in as many minutes as it has taken years to nurture, and then to be told to "Excuse me, I did not think it any harm," or, "Where are your signs," although one may be within ten feet. We expect a park policeman to keep an even and unruffled temper and be at all times gentlemanly. I must bear witness to the fact that our special police have been uniformly so, often under very trying circumstances, and have endeavored at all times to enforce the rules without the unpleasant necessity of making arrests. The general force are above the average, and are chosen for their adaptability to the work at which they are employed, which requires both tact and intelligence.

There are now under my supervision, Bemis, Elmwood, Hanscom, Jefferson Square, Kountze, Miller, Riverview, Fontenelle and Himebaugh Parks, and Florence Boulevard and South East Avenue. Kountze Park has just been acquired and Himebaugh and Fontenelle Parks are unimproved.

BEMIS PARK.—The work done here was of the usual character. No floral decorations or improvements were made. For a park of its dimensions it is well patronized by small picnic parties who are principally residents of that locality.



VIEW IN ELMWOOD PARK.

ELMWOOD PARK
825 CLEVELAND

LANGSTON
PICTURE

HANSCOM PARK.—This park as yet has the largest patronage. This probably is owing in a great measure to its having better street car facilities, although it unquestionably has many attractive features, in addition to dense shade trees, where the heated and weary man may obtain rest and quiet undisturbed, save by the gambol of the squirrels and the carol of the birds. These last are indispensable attractions to many, and the little creatures seem to enjoy the protection they receive. The floral decorations here are very attractive and appreciated by many visitors. This without being obtrusive has been effective.

The work in this park is largely that of maintenance, although improvements were made to the extent of putting in 500 feet of four inch pipe at the northwest corner connecting with the water main at that point. This gives a better water supply at this, the most elevated point of the park, and can be extended so as to give better facilities for watering. It also connects with the fountain, which was put up this season. Other improvements consisted of the planting of pines and spruces in different parts of the park, which will add to its attractiveness in winter. These trees vary from five to eight feet in height, carefully balled and planted so as to insure their growth. Shrubbery has also been planted on some of the steep slopes. This was largely symporacapa coral berry, which always looks trim and of a pleasing soft green in summer, and is clothed with red berries in the winter. It also has the advantage of being perfectly thrifty and growing well in the shade of trees.

ELMWOOD.—In Elmwood we planted a large number of deciduous trees. These were all put in large groups, or practically in wide nursery rows, and are so planted that a large number may be removed from time to time and planted along the boulevards and elsewhere. Very little was expended in this park. Not more than was actually necessary to cultivate to some extent among the trees, and the keeping down of weeds.

JEFFERSON SQUARE.—Owing to its central location, in a thickly populated part of the city, it is perhaps more largely patronized than any other park, especially when taking its size into consideration, and clearly demonstrates the wisdom as well as the necessity of having and retaining such parks in thickly inhabited quarters, adding not only to the health of the community, but to the beauty of the city. Consequently such places should receive better attention than is usually accorded them. To bring these parks to their higher perfection, fencing to exclude animals and confine travel to the walks is requisite. The addition of water in almost any form would be an attractive feature in such places.

KOUNTZE PARK—The latest addition to the park system, although the property of the city, was virtually in possession of the Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition Company this season. Improvements were made on this portion by the erection of bridges across the lagoon, and making and sodding of terraces and the transplanting of large trees and shrubbery, which was done under my supervision.

MILLER PARK.—In this park the work was altogether confined to the cutting of grass and the general care of trees newly planted. These trees have done remarkably well and promise to change altogether the hitherto blank appearance of this park. Owing to continuous freshets, the lake in this park has been filled up completely. I found it necessary to remove the dam so as to leave no obstacles for the rushing mass of water, and would recommend that when funds are available, a lake be excavated on the east side of the existing creek with a sufficient levee, which levee can be planted in trees and shrubbery and make a shaded walk, which would be a very desirable feature.

RIVERVIEW PARK—As has been anticipated, is becoming one of the most favored parks in the city. The general contour of the ground, some broken and abrupt, with some gently undulating, its wooded slopes, and charming prospective, make it an ideal park site.



VIEW IN RIVERVIEW PARK.

There are charming walks which are cut through tangled brush and under shady trees as wild as primeval forests can show—quiet retreats for bookworm or lover. The addition of 13 acres of woodland makes this park 80 acres in extent. Its comparative closeness to the city, less than two and one half miles, and its unsurpassed view of the river and the surrounding country, with its internal charms, cannot but commend it to visitors. The improvement done in this park was the opening of an entrance at Tenth and Valley streets, with branch drives connecting with the higher and lower reaches of the park drives. A pile dam was thrown across a deep draw and filled in back and front. Over this was taken the drive connecting with the entrance. This work took some 40,000 yards of clay to bring the drive to an easy grade, and the filling of intervening ground. A pond was also made, and the requisite pipes for overflow were put in. Winding walks along the contour and streams were made. Pools for the use of the animals, a fence around the deer park, water connections with the city main, and the laying of 1200 feet of four inch pipe and 200 feet of two inch pipe for watering and cleansing of the animals was done. We also transplanted pines and shrubbery in this park.

The only boulevard work done was the surfacing of Nineteenth and Twentieth streets, from Chicago street north to the entrance of Kountze Park. This work was done with the opening of spring, and made a uniformly even surface and a good driveway. It will necessarily require attention and repairs like all forms of macadam, otherwise it will become as objectionable as it is now agreeable to drive over. Foot walks were also put across this boulevard. These were of vitrified brick, slightly convex, and gave no perceptible jar in driving and the first cost is not more than the cost of a short-lived wooden walk. There has been a bad wash-out on the north section of this boulevard over which was put a temporary bridge. This washout will take at least \$1,200 to repair in a permanent manner.

I submit herewith schedules as follows:

Summary of labor and teams (1898).

List of regular employees.

Schedule of tools.

“ “ Animals, Riverview Park.

“ “ trees, vines, shrubs and green house
stock.

Very respectfully,

W. R. ADAMS,
Superintendent.





HANSCOM PARK
OMAHA
IN SUBTROPICAL GARDEN
No. 21.

VIEW IN HANSCOM PARK.

SUMMARY OF LABOR AND TEAMS.

1898.	No. of Men.	No. Days—Hours.	No. Teams.	Days—Hours.
January.	11	226 7	1	7 5
February.	18	236 7	2	18
March.	56	410	8	91 4
April.	80	1140 2	18	175 1
May.	63	1325 4	21	281
June.	59	964 1	22	504
July.	59	834 6	17	122 6
August.	27	279 6	3	89
September.	14	309	3	74
October.	10	343 4	3	41 5
November.	9	257	1	22
December.	10	319 4	1	11

LIST OF REGULAR EMPLOYEES.

W. R. Adams, Sup't.	Employed since 1889.	Nationality.	Scotch-Irish.
Wm. Ellsworth.	May, 1890.		English.
Charley Smith.	September, 1889.		Swede.
J. W. Hickman.	April, 1890.		American.
Wm. McLeod.	May, 1892.		Canadian.
M. T. Clark.	April, 1890.		American.
Lou Larson.	April, 1896.		Dane.
George Cole.	April, 1892.		American.
Lou McCoy.	April, 1896.		American.
Con Godfrey.	April, 1890.		Irish.
N. P. Anderson.	April, 1890.		Dane.
Chas. Frickie.	May, 1890.		German.
Fred. Rupp.	1896.		German.
Wm. Halterman.	1894.		American.

POLICE.

In April there were 2; in May, June, July, August, 4; in September, 3; October, 3; November, 2, and December, 1.

TOOLS.

3 street sprinkling wagons.		5 pipe wrenches.
12 wheel scrapers.	8 scythes and snaths.	1 tin shears.
1 western road grader.		4 strong pliers.
1 road grader (poor repair).		
3 harrows.	3 grind stones.	1 drill.
1 horse roller (poor repair)		1 saw vice.
1 one horse wagon.	14 shuffle hoes.	1 hose plier.
1 cultivator.	6 mattocks.	1 mason trowel.
3 horse lawn mowers.	6 shovels.	6 brooms.
8 hand lawn mowers.	6 garden hoes.	4 oil cans.
200 park settees.	6 pick axes.	1 splashing hook.
1 buggy.	3 hand pruning shears.	6 lawn sprinklers.
	2 stub pruning shears.	
1 portable forge.	2 tree pruners.	2 lanterns.
1 vise.	4 manure forks.	1 garden line.
1 blacksmith hammer.	2 coke forks.	1 tape line.
3 tongs.	8 landscape ranging rods.	2 monkey wrenches.
3 cutting tools.	1 hand truck.	6 water keys.
1 punch.	6 wheel barrows.	1 wagon jack.
3 cold chisels.	6 iron pails.	1 hand iron roller.
6 caulking tools.	2 pruning knives.	1 hand stone roller
2 caulking hammers.	2 lead ladles.	
3 common hammers.	4 sickles.	
3 hand saws.	1 hedge shears.	
2 cross cut saws.	1 hand shears.	
2 axes.	1 water pot.	
1 seeder.	1 level.	
2 fence post augers.	2 stocks and dies.	
1 hay knife.	1 pipe vise.	
10 wooden rakes.	1 pipe cutter.	
4 ice bar chisels.	2 hand augers.	
1 crow bar.	1 screw driver.	
10 steel rakes.	6 weeders.	

ANIMALS AT RIVERVIEW PARK.

Two Buffalo, loaned by Col. W. F. Cody (Buffalo Bill).		
1 moose.	2 Guinea pigs.	4 deer.
1 peacock.	2 black bear.	3 wild geese.
1 mountain lion.	7 white ducks.	1 wild cat.
2 Chinese geese.	1 gray wolf.	75 fox squirrels.
2 coyotes.	2 badgers.	1 red fox.
2 raccoons.	6 hawks.	1 bald eagle.
3 gray eagles.	1 white Alaska owl.	1 monkey-faced owl.
	12 lobe-eared white rabbits.	



VIEW IN ELMWOOD PARK.

TREES.

COMMON NAMES.

BOTANICAL NAMES.

White pine or Weymouth pine.....	<i>Pinus strobus</i>
Pitch pine or Scrub pine.....	<i>Pinus rigida</i>
Red Pine or Norway pine.....	<i>Pinus resinosa</i>
Austrian pine.....	<i>Pinus Austriaca</i>
Mugho dwarf, a native of the Alps.....	<i>Pinus mughus</i>
Scotch pine.....	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>
Hemlock.....	<i>Tsuga Canadensis</i>
White spruce.....	<i>Picea alba</i>
Colorado blue spruce.....	<i>Picea pungens</i>
Norway spruce.....	<i>Picea excelsa</i>
Fir balsam or balm of gilead.....	<i>Abies Balsamea</i>
Red cedar.....	<i>Juniperus Virginiana</i>
American arbor vitae.....	<i>Thuja Occidentalis</i>
Scarlet oak.....	<i>Quercus coccinea</i>
Mossy cup oak.....	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>
Red oak.....	<i>Quercus rubra</i>
Scrub white oak.....	<i>Quercus ilicifolia</i>
Chestnut.....	<i>Castanea Americana</i>
Sugar or hard maple.....	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>
Soft white or silver leaf maple.....	<i>Acer dasycarpum</i>
Weir's cut-leaf maple.....	<i>Acer dasycarpum</i> var <i>Weirii</i>
Cut-leaf Norway.....	<i>Acer platanoides</i> var <i>dissectum</i>
White or gray birch.....	<i>Betula populifolia</i>
Cut leaf weeping birch.....	<i>Betula alba</i> var <i>laciniata pendula</i>
European white birch.....	<i>Betula alba</i>
Shad brush or June berry.....	<i>Amelanchier botryapium</i>
Hornbeam.....	<i>Carpinus Caroliniana</i>
Hop hornbeam.....	<i>Ostrya Virginica</i>
American elm.....	<i>Ulmus Americana</i>
Slippery elm or Red elm.....	<i>Ulmus fulva</i>
Pyramidal English elm.....	<i>Ulmus campestris</i> var <i>monumentalis</i>
Hackberry.....	<i>Celtis Crassifolia</i>
Sassafras.....	<i>Sassafras officinale</i>
White ash.....	<i>Fraxinus Americana</i>
European ash.....	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>
Mountain ash.....	<i>Pyrus Americana</i>
Locust.....	<i>Robinia pseudacacia</i>
Kentucky coffee tree.....	<i>Gymnocladus Canadensis</i>
American larch or hackmetack.....	<i>Larix Americana</i>
Shellbark.....	<i>Carya alba</i>
Pignut.....	<i>Carya porcina</i>
Liquidambar, the sweet gum of the south.....	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>
Buttonwood or buttonball.....	<i>Platanus Occidentalis</i>
Aspen poplar.....	<i>Populus tremuliformis</i>
Lombardy poplar.....	<i>Populus fastigiata</i>
Yellow willow.....	<i>Salix</i> var <i>vitellina</i>
Weeping willow.....	<i>Salix Babylonica</i>
Gingko or maiden hair tree.....	<i>Salisburia adiantifolia</i>
Basswood or linden.....	<i>Tilia Americana</i>
Koelreuteria.....	<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>

FLOWERING VINES.

COMMON NAMES.	BOTANICAL NAMES.
Bittersweet or Roxbury wax work	<i>Celastrus scandens</i>
Trumpet flower	<i>Bignonia radicans</i>
Chinese wisteria	<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>
Virginia creeper, American ivy	<i>Ampelopsis quinquefolia</i> (2 varieties).
Wild or river grape.	<i>Vitis riparia</i>

SHRUBS.

COMMON NAMES.	BOTANICAL NAMES.
Althea or rose of sharon	<i>Hibiscus syriacus</i>
Hercules club	<i>Aralia spinosa</i>
Elegant Oriental arbor vitae	<i>Thuja Occidentalis</i> var <i>elegantissima</i>
Smooth alder	<i>Alnus Europea</i>
Barberry	<i>Barberis vulgaris</i>
Purple-leaved barberry	<i>Barberis vulgaris</i>
Thunberg's barberry	<i>Barberis Thunbergii</i>
Bladder nut	<i>Staphylea colchica</i>
Strawberry bush	<i>Euonymus Americanus</i>
Burning bush or wahoo	<i>Euonymus astropurpureus</i>
Carolina allspice	<i>Calycanthus floridus</i>
Siberian pea tree	<i>Caragana arborescens</i>
American Judas tree	<i>Cercis Canadensis</i>
Golden chain	<i>Laburnum vulgare</i>
Weeping wild cherry	<i>Cerasus serotina</i> var <i>pendula</i>
Choke cherry	<i>Prunus Virginiana</i>
Wild plum	<i>Prunus Americana</i>
Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpus racemosus</i>
Coral berry, Indian currant	<i>Symphoricarpus vulgaris</i>
Panicled dogwood	<i>Cornus paniculata</i>
Red osier dogwood	<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>
Variegated red osier	<i>Cornus Siberica</i> var <i>variegata</i>
Wild hazel nut	<i>Corylus Americana</i>
Black haw	<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>
Common snowball or guelder rose	<i>Viburnum opulus</i> var <i>sterillis</i>
Japan snowball	<i>Viburnum plicatum</i>
White thorn	<i>Crataegus coccinea</i>
Cockspur thorn	<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i>
English Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus oxycantha</i>
Japan quince	<i>Cydonia Japonica</i>
Deutzia	<i>Deutzia crenata</i>
Deutzia Pride of Rochester	<i>Deutzia crenata</i> var <i>Pride of Rochester</i>
Weigelia	<i>Weigela rosea</i>
Common elder	<i>Sambucus Canadensis</i>
Scarlet-berried elder, golden	<i>Sambucus racemosus</i>
Fortune's golden bell (elder)	<i>Forsythia Fortunii</i>
Weeping golden bell	<i>Forsythia suspensa</i>
Purple fringe or smoke tree	<i>Rhus cotinus</i>
Dwarf sumach	<i>Rhus copallina</i>
Stag's horn sumach	<i>Rhus typhina</i>
Honey locust	<i>Gleditschia triacanthos</i>
Mountain fly honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera cerulea</i>
Tartarian honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera tartarica</i>

Hop tree.....	Ptelia trifoliata
Large panicled hydrangea.....	Hydrangea paniculata grandiflora
Prostrate juniper.....	Juniperus prostrata syn procumbus
California privet.....	Ligistrium ovalifolium
Common lilac.....	Syringa vulgaris
Common white lilac.....	Syringa vulgaris var alba
Persian lilac.....	Syringa Persica
Flowering peach.....	Persica vulgaris var camelliaflora
Double pink flowering peach.....	Persica vulgaris var rosea plena flora
Mock orange or syringa.....	Philadelphus coronarius
Double flowering mock orange.....	Philadelphus coronarius var flora plena
Buffalo berry.....	Shepherdia argentea, or canadensis
Redrosa rugosa or ramanas rose.....	Rosa rugosa rubea
Hybrid roses.....	Rosa hybrida var
Pussy willow or silky headed willow.....	Salix
Weeping Kilmarnock willow.....	Salix capraea var pendula
Golden bark in winter.....	Salix vitellina aurea
Bridal wreath spiraea.....	Spiraea prunifolia var flora plena
Van Houtte's spiraea.....	Spiraea Van Houtteii
Thonberg's spiraea.....	Spiraea Thonbergu
Golden spiraea.....	Spiraea opuliflora var aurea
Common tamarisk.....	Tamarix gallica
Flowering almond.....	Prunus Sinensis alba
Sweet pea shrub.....	Desmodium penduliflorum

GREENHOUSE STOCK.

4 Alocasia.....	\$ 1.20	PALMS.	
8 Alamanda.....	4.00		\$1,675.35
6 Asparagus plumosa.....	3.00	3 Areca lutissens.....	\$ 30.00
56 Acylepha.....	33.50	1 Areca alba.....	4.00
50 Anthuricum.....	12.50	2 Cocos plumosa.....	6.00
7 Apedisdra.....	3.50	6 Cocos wedelliana.....	6.00
140 Agave.....	250.00	1 Kentia Mooreana.....	15.00
23 Arundo donax.....	5.75	5 Kentia Belmoreana.....	30.00
4 Anthurium.....	4.00	6 Genoma gracillis.....	6.00
180 Begonia veri.....	89.00	15 Livistonia Chinensis.....	150.00
12 Banana.....	80.00	4 Livistonia rotundifolia.....	6.00
10 Bambusa.....	15.00	1 Phoenix Dactylifera.....	100.00
6 Crotons.....	30.00	20 Phoenix.....	20.00
94 Crotons.....	47.00	9 Phoenix rupicola.....	54.00
50 Cactus.....	30.00	12 Phoenix reclinata.....	72.00
13 Curculigo.....	26.00	3 Phoenix Canaraensis.....	15.00
100 Caladium.....	20.00	1 Chamoerops humilis.....	8.00
10 Cleredendron.....	5.00	12 Coryha Australis.....	84.00
6 Cycus reveluta.....	360.00	1 Coryha.....	25.00
20 Cyperus.....	12.00	2 Raphis Humilis.....	14.00
6 Dffenbachia.....	3.00	3 Raphis Flabelaformis.....	15.00
4 Dion Eluala.....	8.00	2 Seaforthia elegans.....	100.00
100 Dracena.....	100.00	4 Thrinax Arborea.....	120.00
50 Eranthum.....	12.50		\$2,555.35
6 Erythrena.....	3.00		
12 Euonymus.....	12.00		
1 Euphorbia Havenensis..	5.00		
2 Euphorbia splendis....	2.00		
6 Epyhillum truncatum..	6.00		



VIEW IN HANSCOM PARK.

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS :

Gentlemen:—I herewith submit to your honorable body a detailed statement of all receipts and disbursements of the park office for the fiscal year ending December 31st, 1898.

Respectfully,

C. E. RINGQUEST, Secretary.

Financial statement of the Board of Park Commissioners for the year 1898 :

PARK MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT FUND.

RECEIPTS—

Balance with City Treasurer, January 1, 1898.....	\$10,827.67	
Tax levy, 90 per cent of '98 levy.....	26,770.10	
Rent Fontenelle Park, 1897, 1898, 1899, in part.....	425.00	
Elmwood Park grass.....	10.00	
Interest on adjustment of funds account.....	1,456.35	
Unpaid bills certified to Comptroller, Dec. 31, 1898..	2,758.85	—\$42,247.97

EXPENDITURES—

SALARY.

Superintendent.....	\$1,200.00	
Clerk.....	600.00—	\$1 800.00

OFFICE EXPENSES.

Telephone.....	\$30.75	
Directory 1898.....	5.00	
Postage, etc.....	7.20	
Stationery.....	24.75	
Painting office.....	11.20	
Framing picture.....	3.00—	81.90

GENERAL EXPENSE.

City Treasurer, paid interest.....	\$589.00
Band Memorial Day.....	40.00
Paper subscription.....	1.00
Publishing Park Report.....	12.00
Half tones and signs.....	34.56
Expense to Brownville.....	7.50
Trip to Minneapolis Convention.....	33.00
Livery and expense entertaining visiting Park Commissioners.....	9.70

Wire Hammock.....	3.00	
Paints and Canvas.....	5.85	
Blacksmithing.....	39.95	
Hardware.....	63.86	
Repair sprinklers.....	111.15	
Sprinkler and harrow.....	371.50	
Plow and seed sower.....	11.50	
Fence tools.....	10.00--	1,343.57

HANSKOM PARK EXPENSE.

Electric Lights.....	\$ 304.76	
Hardware.....	17.07	
Glass.....	2.75	
Lumber.....	8.48	
Paint and drugs.....	1.95	
Opening pavement for water connection.....	14.58	
Plumbing.....	5.74	
Repair mower.....	4.00	
Muslin.....	2.80	
Brooms.....	6.50	
Corn and oil.....	19.15	
Labor.....	4,244.08	
Iron pipe.....	4.22	
	<u>\$4,636.08</u>	

Green House Expense—

Coal.....	\$307.29	
Blood and bone.....	25.00	
Sewer pipe.....	2.17	
Stone, sand and cement.....	50.75	
Seed.....	22.55	
Flower pots.....	78.58	
Tubs for flowers.....	23.00	
Extras for piping.....	2.92	
Tinning work.....	14.55	

\$526.81— 5,162 89

HANSKOM PARK IMPROVEMENT.

Grass seed.....	\$150.65	
Gravel.....	65.62	
Brick and cement.....	75.10	
Pump for well.....	5.54	
Plumbing.....	68.54	
Hardware.....	64.10	
Meter and supplies.....	336.65	
Fountain.....	336.42	
	<u>\$1,102.62</u>	

Green House Improvement—

Sewer pipe, lime, cement, etc.....	\$12.76	
Lumber and mill work.....	47.53	
Boxes and tobacco stems.....	4.85	
Lead and oil.....	9.30	
Iron pipe and fixtures.....	139.95	
Steam heating plant.....	<u>559.42</u>	
	\$773.81—	1,876.43

KOUNTZE PARK IMPROVEMENT.

Pay roll.....	\$3,081.72	
Advertising.....	16.50	
Catalpa trees.....	65.00	
Plants, flowers, shrubbery and trees.....	799.00	
Bridge over lagoon.....	9,600.00	
Hardware.....	<u>12.01—</u>	13,574.23

JEFFERSON SQUARE EXPENSE.

Labor.....	\$328.80	
Electric light.....	118.80	
Plumbing on drinking fountain.....	1.65	
Hardware.....	<u>3.11—</u>	452.36

JEFFERSON SQUARE IMPROVEMENT.

Cinders.....	<u>\$22.50—</u>	22.50
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BEMIS PARK EXPENSE.

Labor.....	\$302.40	
Cinder.....	12.07	
Electric light.....	<u>76.32—</u>	390.79

BEMIS PARK IMPROVEMENT.

Cinders.....	\$10.50	
Lumber.....	<u>4.18—</u>	14.68

ELMWOOD PARK IMPROVEMENT.

Labor.....	<u>\$923.15—</u>	923.15
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ELMWOOD PARK EXPENSE.

Labor.....	\$595.23	
Repairing scrapers.....	2.60	
Gopher exterminator.....	<u>.75—</u>	598.58

MILLER PARK EXPENSE.

Labor.....	\$459.85	
Hardware.....	<u>22.94—</u>	482.79

RIVERVIEW PARK EXPENSE.

Labor.....	\$1,525.30	
Lumber.....	3.45	
Freight.....	3.90	
Lead and axle grease.....	5.10	
Iron and tin work.....	12.69	
Corn, oats and hay.....	152.90	
Meat for animals.....	273.12	
Hardware.....	25.31	
Blacksmithing.....	78.52—	2,080.29

RIVERVIEW PARK IMPROVEMENT.

Pay roll.....	\$4,360.53	
Stenographer for park addition.....	4.60	
Appraisers “ “ “.....	84.15	
Cinders.....	11.55	
Sewer pipe, sand, brick and cement.....	303.50	
Painting keeper's house.....	64.50	
Paint and oil.....	26.48	
Meter and supplies.....	128.40	
City water connection.....	26.07	
Lead for caulking.....	39.92	
Iron and iron pipe.....	358.50	
Hardware.....	20.03	
Lumber.....	214.72	
Wire and iron fence.....	129.70	
Purchase of animals.....	92.67	
Hauling animals.....	48.00	
Piling contract.....	149.00—	6,062.32

FLORENCE BOULEVARD EXPENSE.

Pay roll and police.....	\$614.89	
Repairing washout.....	250.00	
Electric light.....	14.77	
Repairing sprinkler.....	6.75	
Hose and hardware.....	83.55	
Hydrant rent and repair.....	116.82—	1,086.78

FLORENCE BOULEVARD IMPROVEMENT.

Pay roll.....	\$1,225.26	
Gravel.....	1,843.53	
Cinders.....	1,139.29	
Brick and sand.....	74.75	
Hardware.....	4.10	
Poles for bridge.....	28.00	
Lumber.....	52.74—	4,367.67



VIEW IN RIVERVIEW PARK.

WOOLWORTH AVENUE IMPROVEMENT.

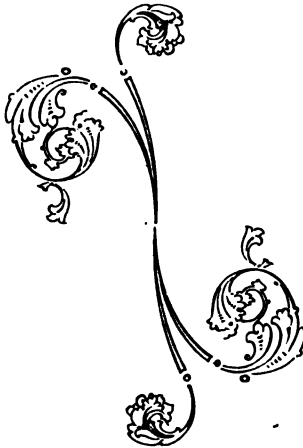
Labor.....	<u>\$75.00—</u>	75.00
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CENTRAL BOULEVARD.

Appraisers and stencographer's fees.....	<u>\$408.90—</u>	408.90
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TREE PURCHASE ACCOUNT.

Digging trees.....	<u>\$1,056.57</u>	
Freight on trees.....	<u>386.56—</u>	1,443 13
		<u>\$42,247.97</u>



PARK STATISTICS.

PARK	Distance from Old P. O.		Direction	When Acquired	How Acquired	No. of Acres	Original Cost	EXPENDITURES TO JAN. 1, 1899		TOTAL COST
	Air Line	Rt. of Travel						Improvements	Maintenance	
Jefferson Square.....	0.22	0.22	North	1854	Original Plat	1.72	.....	\$5,398.18	\$6,720.71	\$12,127.89
Hanscom.....	1.43	2.01	Southwest	1872	Donation	57.69	.....	175,380.89	76,064.81	251,445.70
Elmwood.....	3.43	3.43	West	1889 and 1892	Donat. and Pur.	298.13	\$155,110.00	42,957.38	2,274.64	162,342.02
Bemis.....	1.42	2.07	Northwest	1892	Donat. and Pur.	9.40	30,000.00	13,859.85	2,558.57	46,418.42
Fontenelle.....	3.20	4.62	Northwest	1892	Purchase	107.53	90,000.00	3,292.07	55.60	93,347.67
Miller.....	3.77	4.32	North	1893	Donation	78.00	75,000.00	10,974.32	4,724.02	90,698.34
Himebaugh.....	3.45	3.45	Northwest	1893	Donation	1.10	.....	42.00	.....	42.00
Riverview.....	2.06	2.40	Southeast	1893 and 1898	Condemnation	78.82	78,450.00	28,924.66	8,430.85	115,814.51
Kountze.....	2.12	2.36	North	1897	Donation	10.73	.....	23,632.62	.....	23,632.62
TOTAL.....						553.12	\$408,560.00	\$304,461.97	\$102,847.20	\$815,869.17
Per Inhabitant, population 150,000.....						.0037	2,724	2.03	.685	5.439
Number of Inhabitants per acre 271.....										

BOULEVARDS.

BOULEVARD	TERMINI	Length Miles	Width Feet	When Acquired	How Acquired	EXPENDITURES		TOTAL COST
						Improvements	Maintenance	
Florence.....	Chicago Street to Ames Avenue.....	2.50	72	1894	Donation	\$4,367.67	\$3,049.00	\$ 8,316.67
.....	Ames Avenue to Miller Park.....	1.25	150	1894	Donation	13,174.03	2,257.37	15,431.40
Southeast Avenue.....	Bancroft Street to Riverview Park.....	0.51	150	1894	Condemn't'n	612.80	.....	612.80
TOTAL.....		4.26				\$18,154.50	\$6,296.37	\$24,390.87

STREET PARKING.

STREET	TERMINI	Length Feet	Width Feet	When Acquired	How Acquired	EXPENDITURES		TOTAL COST
						Improvements	Maintenance	
Capitol Avenue.....	Eighteenth St. to Twentieth St.....	600	32	1888	Donation	\$760.08	\$3,309.66	\$4,078.74
Woolworth Avenue.....	Hanscom Park to Thirty-Sixth St.....	1,600	44	1897	Donation	.....	272.54	272.54
Avondale.....	Webster St. from 27th to 28th Sts.....	300	80	1893	Donation	.....	.....	.....
TOTAL.....						\$760.08	\$3,582.20	\$4,351.28

RESUME.

Parks.....	Original Cost	Improvements	Maintenance	TOTAL COST
Boulevards.....	\$408,560.00	\$304,461.97	\$102,847.20	\$815,869.17
Street Parking.....	.....	18,154.50	6,296.37	24,390.87
TOTAL.....	.....	769.08	3,582.20	4,351.28
Per Inhabitant, population 150,000.....	\$408,560.00	\$323,385.55	\$112,635.77	\$844,581.32
Number of Inhabitants per acre 271.....	2,724	2.156	.75	5.63





VIEW IN HANS COM PARK.

HANSCOM PARK.

YEAR	Maintenance	Improvement	TOTAL
1873		\$1,150.00	\$1,150.00
1874	\$ 88.00	2,892.60	2,980.60
1875	262.00	4,357.06	4,619.06
1876	148.00	3,868.97	4,016.97
1877	720.00	3,304.03	4,024.03
1878	510.00	5,072.16	5,582.16
1879	360.00	923.41	1,283.41
1880	480.00	971.61	1,451.61
1881	540.00	1,065.18	1,605.18
1882	520.00	873.46	1,393.46
1883	600.00	1,354.35	1,954.35
1884	500.00	603.45	1,103.45
1885	550.00	1,570.87	2,120.87
1886	600.00	1,728.18	2,328.18
1887	720.00	2,975.25	3,695.25
1888	600.00	2,415.67	3,015.67
1889	2,276.66	9,456.76	11,733.42
1890	5,021.59	32,155.85	37,177.44
1891	4,572.46	17,381.23	21,953.69
1892	3,793.37	11,062.90	14,856.27
1893	13,483.78	18,505.14	31,988.92
1894	10,528.03	2,430.30	12,958.33
1895	9,975.40	42.75	10,018.15
1896	6,014.17	700.00	6,714.17
1897	8,938.46	531.39	8,569.85
1898	5,162.89	1,876.43	7,039.32
	\$76,064.81	\$129,269.00	\$205,333.81
Paving and Curbing streets surrounding Park in Improvement Districts Nos. 281, 359, 227, 157 and 102, the assessment to pay for same was declared null and void.			
Total amount assessed		\$96,375.64	
Amount collected from property owners		50,263.75	
Balance charged against City			46,111.89
			\$251,445.70

EXPENDITURES FOR IMPROVEMENTS AND MAINTENANCE BY YEARS.

	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	TOTAL
Riverview.....*						\$ 200.80	\$ 2,318.85	\$ 539.00	\$ 3,300.91	\$ 2,080.29	\$ 8,439.85
".....*						13,822.97	6,773.51	91.25	2,174.61	6,062.32	28,925.66
Total.....						14,023.77	9,092.36	630.25	5,475.52	8,142.61	37,364.51
Elmwood.....M		\$ 30.00		\$ 19.10		2.00	1,763.43	762.88	1,108.65	598.58	4,274.64
".....I		2,703.29	18,525.98	3,648.86	\$ 4,448.04	6,555.64	287.94	5,572.32	342.16	928.15	42,957.38
Total.....		2,733.29	18,525.98	3,667.96	4,448.04	6,557.64	1,991.37	6,335.20	1,450.81	1,521.73	47,232.02
Miller.....M							1,478.37	436.40	2,326.46	482.79	4,724.02
".....I					7,102.40	3,779.42	92.50				10,974.32
Total.....					7,102.40	3,779.42	1,570.87	436.40	2,326.46	482.79	15,698.34
Fontenelle.....M						3.52		18.35	38.73		55.60
".....I				378.00	2,079.96	834.11					3,292.07
Total.....				378.00	2,079.96	837.63		18.35	38.73		3,347.67
Bemis.....M				5.20		96.45	549.09	355.70	1,161.84	390.79	2,558.57
".....I	\$ 54.14		79.60	3,283.82	8,722.58	1,680.03	25.00			14.68	13,559.85
Total.....	54.14		79.60	3,289.02	8,722.58	1,776.48	574.09	355.70	1,161.34	405.47	16,418.42
Kountze.....I									10,058.39	13,574.23	23,632.62
Total.....									10,058.39	13,574.23	23,632.62
Jefferson Square M	111.00	276.78	476.66	354.06	2,415.58	839.83	950.74	240.85	611.85	452.36	6,739.71
".....I	1,675.44	3,500.44	118.80	50.00			16.00		15.00	22.50	5,398.18
Total.....	1,786.44	3,777.22	595.46	354.06	2,465.58	839.83	966.74	240.85	626.85	474.86	12,127.89
Woolworth Ave. I									197.54	75.00	272.54
Total.....									197.54	75.00	272.54
Capitol Ave.....M		90.22	223.22	376.76	918.60	949.65	313.20	178.15	259.86		3,309.66
".....I	633.10	22.58					95.75		17.65		769.08
Total.....	633.10	112.80	223.22	376.76	918.60	949.65	408.95	178.15	277.51		4,078.74
Florence Bou'd. M					39.00	826.25	1,119.58	9.64	3,125.12	1,086.78	6,206.37
".....I				3,570.89	4,140.73	5,057.22	15.07	390.12		4,367.67	17,541.70
Total.....				3,570.89	4,179.73	5,883.47	1,134.65	399.76	3,125.12	5,454.45	23,748.07
Southeast Bou'd M					463.75	35.25	113.80				612.80
Total.....					463.75	35.25	113.80				612.80
Himebaugh Park. I					405.75						42.00
Total.....				42.00	405.75						42.00

M—Maintenance.
I—Improvements.



VIEW IN ELMWOOD PARK.

PARK FUNDS.

Year.	No. of Mills	Fund	Other Sources	Total
1889	3	\$62,180.37	\$ 193.00	\$62,373.37
1890	1½	30,000.27	383.00	30,383.27
1891	1½	30,044.54	330.82	30,375.36
1892	2½	48,525.43	8 80	48,534.23
1893	2	40,942.78	37,366.06*	78,308.84
1894	1½	28,890.17	1,809.50	30,699.67
1895	1	19,656.11	583.02	20,239.13
1896	¾	13,572.48	1,502.00	15,074.48
1897	3	52,247.84	2,839 61	55,087.45
1898	9-10	29,744.55	1,880.19	31,624.74

Total\$402,700.54

Yearly average..... 10,270.05

*\$26,728.00 transferred from Park Purchase Fund, \$10,000.00 insurance.



The following table published in the report of the "Park and Out Door Art Association," for 1897, is of interest. Since its publication, Kansas City, at an expense of nearly \$1,000,000, has acquired 460 acres of park land, in addition to Swope Park of 1354 acres, outside the city limits. Many other changes have taken place, but not having complete data, the board gives it as first published.

NAME OF CITY	No. Large Parks	Acreage	Inter-ior Secs.	Acreage	Total Acreage	Total Appropriation and Cost	Population	Cost Per Capita	Inhab. Per Acre
N. Y. City Park System.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,190	50,000,000	2,000,000	\$25.00	385
Boston, Mass., proper.....	22	2,190	65	147	2,337	13,747,000	500,250	27.48	214
Brooklyn, N. Y.....	2	1,052	29	528	1,575	30,000,000	1,300,000	23.07	825
Albany, N. Y.....	3	2 0	8	15	295	2,135,700	100,000	21.35	339
Baltimore, Md.....	9	1,100	20	37	1,137	10,000,000	600,000	16.66	527
Chicago, Ill.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
South Parks.....	5	1,181	.....	.....	1,408	14,190,600	.....	.....	.....
South Parks Boulevards.....	.....	.....	9	317	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
West Parks.....	3	566	5	30	746	8,371,060	.....	.....	.....
West Parks Boulevards.....	.....	.....	9	150	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lincoln Park.....	1	350	.....	.....	350	7,000,000	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,594	29,561,660	1,800,000	16.42	694
Washington, D. C.....	18	328	283	76	404	4,495,237	277,000	16.22	685
Minneapolis, Minn.....	11	1,500	25	40	1,540	2,750,000	200,000	13.75	130
Minneapolis Boulevards.....	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cambridge, Mass.....	1	137	2	21	158	1,021,500	81,650	12.51	516
Buffalo, N. Y.....	4	889	13	61	950	4,000,000	350,000	11.43	369
Newark, N. J.....	7	3,113	.....	.....	3,113	2,500,000	215,800	11.12	69
San Francisco, Cal.....	3	1,090	14	224	1,314	3,744,605	360,000	10.40	274
Pittsburgh, Pa.....	1	767	.....	.....	767	3,000,000	290,000	10.35	378
St. Louis, Mo.....	10	2,134	10	43	2,177	5,100,000	.....	.....	.....
St. Louis Botanical Gard'n.....	.....	.....	1	45	45	338,000	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,222	5,438,400	630,000	8.63	233
Cincinnati, O.....	6	400	.....	.....	400	2,000,000	300,000	6.66	750
Duluth, Minn.....	4	400	10	25	425	550,000	67,000	8.20	158
Peoria, Ill.....	4	322	3	12	334	350,000	60,000	5.83	180
Toledo, Ohio.....	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	625,000	125,000	5.00	.....
Cleveland, Ohio.....	8	1,178	8	36	1,214	2,000,000	350,000	5.71	288
Omaha, Neb.....	6	550	3	2	552	750,000	140,000	5.35	254
Philadelphia, Pa.....	1	3,800	22	318	3,618	6,250,000	1,250,000	5.00	345
Fairmont.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Louisville, Ky.....	3	1,055	4	10	1,113	1,003,520	215,500	4.66	194
Parkway.....	.....	.....	1	48	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Metropolitan Boston.....	7	.....	.....	.....	8,000	.....	.....	.....	.....
Reservations.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Parkways.....	3	9 miles	.....	.....	.....	4,300,000	1,025,000	4.20	41
400 sq. miles 25,000 acres in district.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	District
Springfield, Mass.....	1	463	24	20	483	169,000	50,000	3.38	104
Milwaukee, Wis.....	7	400	9	61	461	1,140,000	300,000	3.80	651
Denver, Colo.....	9	520	2	20	540	387,808	150,000	2.58	278
Indianapolis, Ind.....	1	89	2	27	116	290,000	183,000	1.58	1578
Des Moines, Iowa.....	4	400	3	5	405	Condemnation on hand for more land.	.....	1.55	185
Kansas City, Mo.....	3	1,338	.....	.....	1,338	115,000	75,000	0.68	119
St. Paul, Minn., Land.....	2	592	.....	.....	592	Condemnation on hand for more land.	.....	.....	.....
St. Paul, Minn., Water.....	.....	210	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	.....	802	44	87	889	Maintenance 296,415	155,000	.....	174
Richmond, Va.....	4	354	9	31	385	Maintenance 132,000	100,000	.....	267
Hartford, Conn.....	6	1,960	9	7	1,067	.....	70,000	.....	65
Wilmington, Del.....	4	225	10	30	255	.....	70,000	.....	275
Rochester, N. Y.....	3	630	8	17	653	.....	170,000	8.61	268
						To Jan. 1, '98	.....	.....	.....

Ordinance No. 4444.

AN ORDINANCE Prohibiting the Doing of Certain Acts Within or Upon Parks, Parkways or Boulevards of the City of Omaha, and Providing Penalties for the Violation of the Provisions thereof.

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Omaha:

SECTION 1. It shall be unlawful for any person within or upon any of the parks, parkways or boulevards of the City of Omaha to utter any loud or indecent language, to do any indecent or disorderly act, to be intoxicated; to bet, gamble or make wagers upon any game or games of cards or chance; to discharge any firearm or throw or cast any stone or missile by hand, sling shot, rubber gun or otherwise; to beg, publicly solicit subscriptions or tell fortunes for pay; to drive or lead a horse not well broken; to drive or lead cattle, hogs, sheep or any other animal; to allow any dog to run at large; to place or display any sign or advertisement; to obstruct any roadway or path; to enter or leave any park except at the established entrance-ways thereof; to conduct any funeral procession or vehicle containing the body of any deceased person except when the same is necessary by reason of the previous place of abode of the deceased; to build any fire; to write, paint or carve on or deface or injure any tree, bench or structure; to climb any tree; to tie any horse to a tree; to pick, cut or in any manner injure or destroy any plant, flower, fruit, turf or structure; to rob, injure, destroy or molest the nest of any bird, squirrel or other animal; to catch or disturb fish in the fountains or other waters of the park; to kill, poke sticks at, spit upon, throw at, threaten or in any manner tease, disturb or injure any fowl, fish, or animal kept in any park or the waters thereof; to drive or transport any cart, dray wagon, truck or other vehicle used for carrying goods, merchandise, building material, manure, dirt or other article; to ride or drive any animal or vehicle at a speed exceeding ten miles per hour; provided this shall not apply to the vehicles of the fire and police departments, ambulance or vehicles used by physicians when actually engaged in responding to an emergency call, or that portion of Florence boulevard lying between Ames avenue and Miller park, or any portion of the parks and boulevards that may hereafter be designated as "speed ways"; to drive any vehicle any place other than the designated carriage roads; to enter or remain in any park, between the hours of eleven o'clock p. m. and sunrise; to empty contents of ice cream freezers or throw salt or ice upon the grass.

SECTION 2. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to commit any of the following acts within or upon the parks, parkways and boulevards of the city of Omaha without the consent of the Board of Park Commissioners, viz: to keep or offer anything for sale; to play any music; to deliver any public speech or hold any public meeting; to play base ball, tennis or any other game, except at the places designated for such purpose; to violate the regulations of said board relating to any building or place; to carry any fire arms, sling shot, ax, saw, shovel or spade within any park, except when rendered necessary by the place of abode of the person carrying same; to go on foot or otherwise upon the grass or turf where any prohibitory sign is posted; to construct or operate a line of street railway upon any park, or parkway or boulevard, or to enter thereon for the purpose of excavating or constructing a line of street railway, except at the points where such lines are now being operated; to dig holes, set poles or construct telegraph, telephone or electric light lines or enter upon any park, parkway or boulevard for such purpose; to discharge any fireworks or firearms.

SECTION 3. Any person violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in any sum not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00) or imprisonment not more than thirty (30) days.

SECTION 4. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Passed May 17, 1898.

Approved May 23, 1898.

BEECHER HIGBY,
City Clerk.
W. W. BINGHAM,
President City Council.
FRANK E. MOORES,
Mayor

Copy of deed conveying Hanscom Park to the City of Omaha, recorded in Book 13 of Deeds at page 310, in the office of the County Recorder of Douglas County, Nebraska, reads as follows:

ANDREW J. HANSCOM AND WIFE,
JAMES G. MEGEATH AND WIFE,
TO
THE CITY OF OMAHA.

In Consideration of the covenants and agreements hereinafter mentioned to be kept and performed by the party of the second part to these presents. We, Andrew J. Hanscom and Catherine A. Hanscom, his wife, and James G. Megeath and Virginia C. Megeath, his wife, of the first party do hereby grant, sell and convey unto the City of Omaha, party of the second part, the following described real estate bounded as follows: to-wit, Beginning on the line dividing the lands of said Hanscom and Megeath at a point eleven (11) rods east of the center of Section twenty-eight (28), Township fifteen (15), Range thirteen (13) East, in the County of Douglas, State of Nebraska, and running thence north on a line parallel with the east line of said section eighty (80) rods, thence west on a line parallel with the north line of said section seventy-one (71) rods, thence south on a line parallel with the west line of said section one hundred and thirty (130) rods, thence east on a line parallel with the south line of said section seventy-one (71) rods, and thence north on a line parallel with the east line of said section fifty (50) rods to the place of beginning, containing fifty-seven and sixty-eight one hundredths (57 68-100) acres, more or less, the north 35 and 51-100 acres of which is hereby conveyed by said Hanscom and the remainder thereof by said Megeath.

The conveyance is made and accepted upon these express conditions, that said premises shall be forever used and occupied as a public park and that the same shall be forever known and designated as Hanscom Park, and that the said city shall expend in improving, ornamenting and beautifying said premises Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00) during the year 1873, Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000) each year for the years 1874, 1875 and 1876, and Five Thousand (\$5,000) each year for the years 1877 and 1878, and shall forever after keep said premises in good order and repair as a public park.

In case the said City of Omaha shall fail, refuse, or neglect to comply with all or any of said conditions then, and in that case, the title to said premises shall revert back and reinvest in the parties of the first part, their heirs or assigns, according to their original interests, and for the consideration aforesaid we also hereby convey to the City of Omaha a strip of land eighty feet (80) feet wide adjoining and entirely surrounding said park for the purpose of a public street or highway upon these express conditions, that it shall be forever used and occupied as a public street or highway, and that the said City of Omaha shall lay out and improve said street or highway and shall forever after keep the same in good order and repair at the expense of said City, and in case of failure or neglect to comply with any or all of said conditions then, and in that case, the title to said street or highway shall revert back and reinvest in said parties of the first part, their heirs or assigns, according to their original interest.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands this 7th day of November, 1872.

In presence of Lewis S. Reed.

ANDREW J. HANSCOM,
CATHERINE A. HANSCOM,
JAS. G. MEGEATH,
VIRGINIA C. MEGEATH.

[SEAL]

Signed and acknowledged before LEWIS S. REED,
Notary Public.

Accepted by the City Council November 12, 1872.

Attest: JAS. M. McCUNE,

City Clerk.

Recorded November 15, 1872, at 10¼ a. m.

WM. H. JAMS, County Clerk.



VIEW IN HANSCOM PARK.

ANALYSIS OF WATER

*From Riverview Park Artesian Well.**Analysis made in January, 1896.*

Physical Properties: Clear; no sediment; no appreciable taste; no odor.

Reaction: Slightly alkaline.

Total Solids	95.4 grains per gallon.
Chlorine.....	6.2 " " "
(Equivalent in Common Salt).....	10.2 " " "
Free Ammonia.....	150. parts per 100,000.000
Albumenoid Ammonia.....	2. " " "
Oxygen consumed by moist combustion process..	150. " " "
Total hardness	13. degrees.
Temporary hardness.....	9.8 "
Permanent hardness.....	3.2 "
Mineral Solids Divided Approximately as Follows:	
Sodium and Potassium Sulphates.....	75 per cent.
Magnesium and Calcium Carbonates.....	9 " "
Sodium Chloride.....	12 " "
Iron Sulphate.....	Trace.
Magnesium Sulphate.....	4 per cent.
	100 per cent.

REMARKS.—The sample of water shows more than the average amount of solid matter in solution, which, however, is almost entirely of a mineral nature—only a trace being of organic origin.

The hardness of the water is below that of the Missouri River water at most seasons of the year. The greater portion of the hardness is of the "temporary" variety, and may be removed by boiling.

I do not find in the sample of water sent me anything but what is perfectly wholesome for drinking purposes.

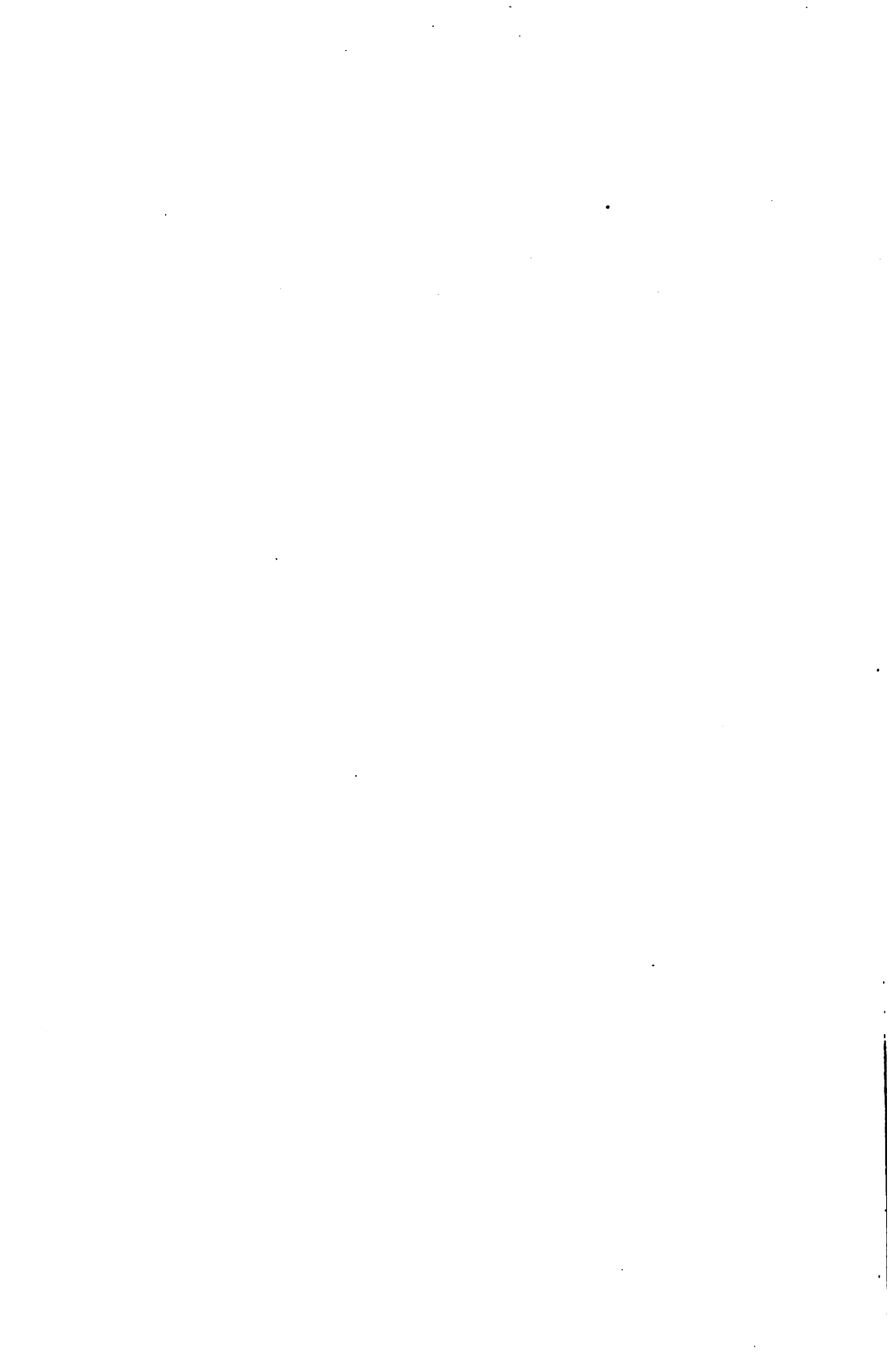
Very respectfully,

GEO. M. TURNER,

Instructor in Chemistry, High School.

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DATE DUE



Omaha.

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